UINTAH BASIN ADAPTIVE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (UBARM) LOCAL WORKING GROUP

Planning/update meeting

Date: Thursday, September 15, 2005

Time: 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Place: State & County Building, North Conference

Room

Members Present:

Brian Maxfield – UDWR
Debra Domenici – Kerr McGee
Dixie Sadlier – BLM VFO
Sherel Goodrich – USDA Forest Service
Sarah Lupis – USU Extension
Rod Harrison – Duchesne County Commissioner
Scott Chew—Landowner
Stephanie Tomkinson—Questar
Boyd Kitchen—USU EXT
Carlyle Rollins—USDA WS
Mike Tamllos—USDA WS
Curtis Warick--BLM
Scott Chamberlain-SITLA
Darrel Gillman—NRCS
Darlene Burns—County planning

Information Presented

Dixie presented an update of BLM applications for approval to drill. She didn't know how many of these were in sage-grouse habitat, but they are mapped—both potential sites and existing wells.

Brian gave an update on West Nile Virus. The grouse that was found was in Arcadia and was found in a corn field. She was an adult female that did have a brood. The people that found the bird claimed that there are 30-40 birds in that area and they were able to point out a potential lek site. Some sage-grouse do survive WNV, but most die and die quickly. The bird found here was very thin and undernourished. So far, this is the only sage-grouse found so far in the state.

15-16 grouse are still collared on Anthro Mtn. DWR plans to fly through the winter to see where those birds go. Right now, there is no information about where those birds go. Lots of DWR projects going on right now or will be soon; update on this next time.

Scott reported that last month they had a field tour with several agencies on Blue Mountain to consider habitat projects. Dixie reported that the BLM is looking to treat the entire Mountain and they will be looking at that in the field tomorrow.

Sarah informed the group that the MOU was being re-worked by folks with the NRCS and

wouldn't be ready until October or November. Signature gathering was postponed until further notice.

Discussion Highlights

Group discussed Conservation Targets table and worked on Indicator Ratings for Population Size. Group reached consensus on numbers for males on leks and number of active leks (see table).

Follow-up Needed

Sarah and Dixie to coordinate getting maps of exiting and proposed Natural Gas wells.

Sherel to get USFS fire plan to Sarah

Group to review and develop ideas for rest of Conservation Target table.

Sarah to put Curtis on all LWG lists.

Sarah to continue to update Section 2.

Actions Taken

Minutes from last time approved.

Section 1 of the Conservation Plan was approved: Boyd made the motion, Sherel seconded, and there were no opposing.

Next meeting

Date: Tuesday, November 15th, 2005

Time: 3-5 PM Business Meeting; 6-8 PM Dinner Meeting

Place: Business Meeting @ County Building; Dinner Meeting @ 7-11 Ranch House

Business Meeting Agenda: Steve Brayden to give an update on DWR habitat projects; continue to review Section 2; continue to fill out Conservation Target table for habitat and landscape context.